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March 12, 2019

The Honorable Elijah E. Cummings, Chairman
Committee on Oversight and Reform
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cummings:

Since Mr. Cohen's open testimony before the House Oversight Committee on Wednesday, February 27, 2019, questions have been raised about a sentence in Mr. Cohen's opening statement:

".... And I have never asked for, nor would I accept, a pardon from President Trump."

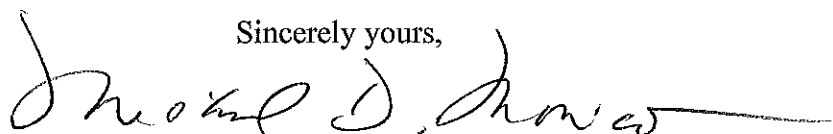
In retrospect, while the sentence could have been clearer regarding the time frames, the sentence is true, and Mr. Cohen stands by his statement.

The sentence was written in the context of Mr. Cohen's decision in June 2018 to leave the Trump Joint Defense Agreement (the "JDA") and to tell the truth. Further, Mr. Cohen rejected the opportunity to ask for and receive a pardon even though he knew he was going to prison with hardships to his family.

In contrast, when Mr. Cohen was previously a member of the Trump joint defense team, President Trump publicly dangled the possibility of pardons when commenting about ongoing investigations. With that in mind, as a past member of the joint defense team, Mr. Cohen asked his then attorney to discuss with another Trump attorney possible pardon options consistent with the President's prior public declarations. Nothing ever happened.

At no time did Mr. Cohen personally ask President Trump for a pardon or did the President offer Mr. Cohen the same. In retrospect the above sentence in his testimony could have been clearer and more complete regarding the distinction between the pre-JDA and post-JDA time periods.

Sincerely yours,



Michael Monico